REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of May 19, 2006 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 6-11 are presented for examination. These have been rejected as anticipated by Tamura et al. under 35 USC 102(b).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding independent claim 6, the examiner states that "an adaption module (element 30, Figs. 1-35) [is] connected to said housing which serves for securement to the hat rail . . .".

Applicant cannot agree. If the housing "serves for securement to the hat rail," then anticipation cannot be supported because it is not the housing but the adaptation module "which serves for securement to the hat rail."

Claim 6 has been amended formally only. And for the reasons noted above, it and claims 7-11 which depend therefrom, are believed to be patentable over Tamura et al.

Allowance of claims 6-11 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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List of Current Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 5 (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A process automation signal processing unit for mounting on a hat rail, including:

a housing for receiving a plurality of plug-in cards;

a display unit to which [[;]] ~~connectable with~~ said plurality of plug in cards are connected, said display unit ~~comprised of~~ comprising: a frame with a display, a keypad and a circuit board, for forming a switchboard installable device, wherein conductive traces of said circuit board serve for the electric connection of said plurality of plug-in cards; and

an adaptation module connected to said housing which serves for securement to the hat rail and which has a circuit board, whose conductive traces are laid-out correspondingly to the conductive traces of said circuit board of said display unit.

7. (Previously presented) The process automation signal processing unit as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

on said circuit boards, card edge connectors are provided, which are situated to be mutually fitted such that, on placement of either said adaptation module or said display unit onto said housing, the connections between said plurality of plug-in cards are produced.

8. (Previously presented) The process automation signal processing unit as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

said circuit board has display operating electronics for said display.

9. (Previously presented) The process automation signal processing unit as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

said adaptation module has two angle sheets, of which at least one is resiliently mounted to serve for a snap-in connection with the hat rail.

10. (Previously presented) The process automation signal processing unit as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

said adaptation module comprises steel sheet.

11. (Previously presented) The process automation signal processing unit as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

said plurality of plug-in cards include at least one of: a CPU-card, an I/O card, and power supply card.